Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00077 201639Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 (ISO) W

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R 201120Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5616

INFO RUEHCRAMEMBASSY GABORONE 633

CONFIDENTIAL CAPE TOWN 0077

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, RH, BC

SUBJ: RHODESIAN PROBLEMS WITH BOTSWANA

REF: PRETORIA 5874

1. FOR THE RECORD HAROLD HAWKINS INFORMED ME THIS MORNING THAT INFORMAL TALKS BETWWEN RHODESIAN AND BOTSWANAN OFFICIALS HAD COME TO AN END. HE SAID THAT AT THE FIRST MEETING ON JANUARY 4 WHICH HAD GONE REASONABLY WELL THE SOUTH AFRICAN SIDE HAD PROPOSED THREE MEASURES TO AVOID REPETITION OF INCIDENTS. THESE WERE: JOINT PATROLS, A HOT LINE BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATIONS, AND PERIODIC CONSULATIONS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. THE BOTSWANA SIDE HAD NOT BEEN IN A POSITION TO TAKE ANY DECISIONS BUT AGREED TO CONSULT PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA AND RESPOND AT THE SUBSEQUENT SESSION.

2. THE TWO SIDES MET AGAIN AT JAN SMUTS AIRPORT
ON JANUARY 14 HAWKINS REMARKED THAT, UNFORTUNATELY,
A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING ANOTHER INCIDENT HAD
OCCURRED AND THIS HAD PROMPTED SIR SERETSE TO DECIDE
THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER "POLITICAL" MEETINGS
AFTER THE ALREADY SCHEDULED SECOND SESSION. THIS WAS
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CONDUCTED AT A LOWER LEVEL THAN THE FIRST AND SERVED NO OTHER PURPOSE THAN TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE BOTSWANANS TO RELAY SIR SERETSE'S DECISION.

3. HAWKINS OBSERVED THAT CONTACTS AT THE CID LEVEL WERE NOT RULED OUT BUT WS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE UTILITY OF THESE.

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

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Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BORDER INCIDENTS, BORDER CONTROLS, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Disposition Reason:
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Subject: RHODESIAN PROBLEMS WITH BOTSWANA

TAGS: PFOR, RH, BC, (KHAMA, SERETSE)

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